

makes any effort to get the United Nations to help the United States far more difficult.

How to treat the United Nations has been a particular dilemma for President Bush, since opponents of the organization form an important part of the administration's core constituency. Internal disagreements over the past five years about whether to support it or abandon it, to use it or bypass it, have both weakened the organization and led to reduced U.S. influence even as more and more intractable issues are thrown into its hands.

The United Nations is facing major budgetary problems caused primarily by American insistence on a six-month budget cycle instead of the normal two-year cycle. It must deal with growing shortfalls in the U.S. contribution to peacekeeping funding, despite Washington's calls for more peacekeepers in Darfur and elsewhere. And it is confronted by a deadlock over rebuilding the headquarters complex in New York—a deadlock whose main cause is the administration's failure to push Congress for proper funding. (This is particularly difficult to understand, since the U.N. signature building, its 38-story East River office tower—built in 1950 and never subject to modern safety codes—is widely acknowledged to be the major building in New York most vulnerable to a terrorist attack. For example, when the president visits it, the Secret Service closes down FDR Drive beneath it—but what about the rest of the time?)

Still, even though Annan and the world body have been diminished by Washington, he and his colleagues simply cannot refuse to help on the Iraq matter; it is their responsibility as international civil servants to go where the problems are worst and then to do their best. And, on the basis of private talks with Annan, Malloch Brown and administration officials, I have no doubt that they intend to do just that. In fact, Malloch Brown has already agreed to travel to Baghdad very soon for preliminary meetings that the United Nations and the United States hope will culminate later this year in a high-level conference in the region. As Annan moves into his last six months as secretary general, this would be the right way to end a turbulent decade in that office—with a genuine contribution to the cause of peace in Iraq.

It is, however, impossible not to note the irony and the implications of what has happened in the past two weeks between Washington and the United Nations. Once again, an administration that has underfunded, undersupported and undermined the United Nations has turned to it, almost in desperation, for help.

The lesson should be clear: Despite the enormously self-destructive actions of many other member states, especially the group of developing nations called the G-77, the United Nations still serves U.S. foreign policy interests in many important ways. Not only Iraq but also Iran, Darfur, Afghanistan and the difficult negotiations just started over Kosovo's final status—all issues of vital importance to the United States—have now ended up in the United Nations. To weaken this institution further, as has happened in recent years, serves no clear American national security interest. To strengthen it would make it more valuable to the United States and to every nation that seeks conflict resolution, stability and economic progress. With the maneuvering over the selection of Annan's successor underway, it is time for Washington—and this must include Congress—to put behind it a sorry period of confusion and offer the United Nations more support, both financial and political, in return for the things it needs in Iraq and elsewhere.

RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE OF COLONEL LARRY D. RUGGLEY

HON. JOHN S. TANNER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 29, 2006

Mr. TANNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a very distinguished military leader who is retiring after 34 years of service to this country. I rise today to congratulate Colonel Larry D. Ruggley on his retirement, thank him for his dedication to our country and acknowledge the important leadership role he has played in the United States Army.

A little more than 3 years ago, Colonel Ruggley assumed command of the United States Army Garrison at Fort Campbell, a portion of which I am proud to represent in the Congress. Colonel Ruggley and I have worked closely together on numerous occasions during his service at Fort Campbell, and I am very appreciative of his understanding of the mission of the Army, its role in protecting our country and the needs of each man and woman who wears the uniform of the United States Army. Colonel Ruggley's contributions have been immensely valuable.

Colonel Ruggley's long and impressive career began in 1971 when he was an enlisted soldier in the Army Security Agency. He graduated as the Distinguished Military Graduate from Ohio University and was commissioned in 1978 as an Infantry Officer, then served his first assignment at Berlin Brigade, Germany. He went on to complete numerous other leadership assignments: 2nd Battalion, 7th Special Forces Group (Airborne); 7th Infantry Division (Light); 1st Special Warfare Training Group and D Company, 1st Battalion, Fort Bragg, North Carolina; Special Operations Command Europe, Bosnia, and 3rd Battalion, 3rd Special Forces Group (Airborne).

His unit participated in the African Crisis Response Initiative in Malawi and Uganda and other missions in Africa. After command, he became the Deputy Director of Training and Doctrine and then Chief of Staff of the John F. Kennedy Special Warfare Center and School until 2000. After completing the Army War College, Colonel Ruggley was assigned to the Army Special Operations Command as the Deputy Chief of Staff for Personnel from 2001–2003, after which he became Garrison Commander at Fort Campbell, home of the 101st Airborne Division. During his 3-year tenure he oversaw superb support during a tumultuous time for the 101st Airborne Division as they redeployed from war, transformed and redeployed to Iraq last year.

Colonel Ruggley's many awards and decorations include the Legion of Merit, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal w/4OLC, Joint Service Commendation Medal w/1OLC, Army Commendation Medal w/1OLC, Joint Service Achievement Medal, Army Achievement Medal 3/OLC, Joint Meritorious Unit Award, Army Superior Unit Award, Army Good Conduct Medal, Army Occupation Medal, National Defense Service Medal 1/OLC, Army Service Ribbon, Overseas Service Ribbon, and NATO Medal. He also has been awarded the Ranger Tab and Special Forces Tab, is a Master Parachutist, HALO Parachutist, and holds the Expert Infantryman Badge. He completed a Masters Degree in Administration from Central Michigan Univer-

sity and received a Masters Degree in Military Studies while attending the War College.

Mr. Speaker, Colonel Ruggley will now retire from his service in the United States Army, and Colonel Frederick W. Swope will assume the responsibility of Garrison Commander. I hope you and our colleagues will join me in welcoming Colonel Swope to his new post and recognizing the accomplished and distinguished service of Colonel Larry Ruggley, an outstanding military hero, a proven American patriot and my friend. We thank him for all he has done for his country and wish him, his wife Marie and their four children, all the best as Colonel Ruggley enters this new phase of his life.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO COLONEL WILLIAM M. "GOLDIE" AND MARY GOLDFEIN

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 29, 2006

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor William "Goldie" and Mary Goldfein, who will be celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary on July 22, 2006.

Goldie and Mary met in Japan in 1955. Goldie was assigned as a new officer and fighter pilot, and Mary worked as a school teacher for the Department of Defense. After their marriage in 1956, the Goldfeins had three boys, all of whom currently serve in the United States Air Force: Steve, a Major General, Dave, a selectee for Brigadier General, and Mike, a Lieutenant Colonel. They also enjoy six grandchildren, Alex, a Lieutenant in the Air Force, Travis, a senior in college, Dani, who is entering college in the fall, Diana, who is 16, Scott, who is 12, and Hannah, who is 10. All of Goldie and Mary's sons and one of their grandsons have graduated from the United States Air Force Academy.

Goldie, his sons, and grandson have accumulated over 100 years of military service and that number continues to grow. Mary has dedicated thousands of hours of service on numerous Air Force Bases. The most notable in their 20 years of service was serving as the Nanoscience and Technology and the Combined Federal campaign director.

The Goldfeins retired from the United States Air Force at Nellis Air Force Base in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize William and Mary Goldfein on the floor of the House. I commend them for their contributions to the United States Air Force, Southern Nevada community, and especially the airmen stationed at Nellis Air Force Base.

SCIENCE, STATE, JUSTICE, COMMERCE, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2007

SPEECH OF

HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 28, 2006

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under